Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, fourth paragraph, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The *A. oryzae cre*A gene was subcloned from a Geml2 clone as a 7.3 KBBamHI fragment. By Southern analysis, the coding region was localised on a 4.3 KB PstI-SphI fragment that was subcloned inpUC19 generating pNFF212 and completely sequenced. The nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence of the *A. oryzae cre*A gene is given below. Sequence motifs in the putative promoter region that fit the SYGRGG (SEQ ID NO 5) consensus of CREA DNA-binding sites (Kulmburg et al., 1993) are singly underlined and marked in bold. The region encompassing the DNA-binding C_2H_2 Zn finger region in the CREA protein (Dowzer et al., 1989) is doubly underlined and in bold.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, third paragraph, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the DNA sequence stop codons were introduced at position +226-228 and +229-23 1, changing the sequence TACAAG encoding the dipeptide TyrLys into TAGTAG (StopStop). This mutation was introduced into pNFF212 by site directed mutagenesis using oligonucleotide CTTCCCCGTCCATAGTAGTGTCCCCTGTG (SEQ ID NO 3) and its complement CACAGGGGACACTACTATGGACGGGGAAG (SEQ ID NO 4) as described in the Quickchange protocol (Stratagene, Basel).

Please add the following new paragraph after the last paragraph on page 10:

The *Aspergillus oryzae* mutant was deposited on March 9, 1999, according to the Budapest Treaty with an International Depository Authority: the Institute Pasteur at 25 Rue du Docteur Roux F-75724 Paris, France. The deposit is identified as NF14 (are A1, cre A1) and is assigned Deposit No. CNCM I-2165. All restrictions on the availability to the public of the material so deposited will be irrevocably removed upon the grant of a patent.